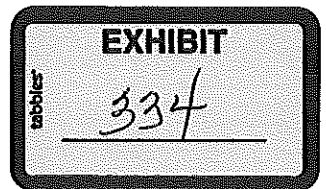




# City of Milford, Connecticut

• Founded in 1639 •



James L. Richetelli, Jr.  
Mayor

City Hall  
110 River Street  
Milford, CT 06460

February 3, 2010

BUREAU OF WATER PROTECTION AND LAND  
OFFICE OF THE BUREAU

FEB 08 2010

Mr. Paul E. Stacey  
Department of Environmental Protection  
Bureau of Water Protection and Land Re-Use,  
Planning and Standards Division  
79 Elm Street  
Hartford, Ct. 06106-5127

Dear Mr. Stacey,

As the chief elected official of Milford, I am writing to comment on the stream flow regulations proposed by the Department of Environmental Protection. I am very concerned about environmental issues, and I believe there is a compelling need for DEP to proceed slowly and thoughtfully before enacting the stream flow regulations as currently drafted.

As noted by the South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority (SCCRWA), the water utility serving Milford, water plays a vital role in the health and welfare of citizens. It is my understanding that DEP has not completed its work to quantify the amount of water needed now – and in the future – by the people and businesses of this State. It seems that the completion of this long-term planning effort should precede the adoption of the proposed environmental regulations.

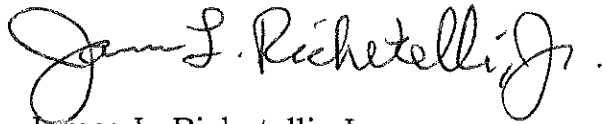
Also, there seems to be a significant amount of uncertainty about the cost of implementing the proposed regulations to the citizens, agencies and municipalities. The SCCRWA has estimated that at least \$15 million in expenditures is necessary to comply with the regulations – an expense that would surely be passed along to the ratepayers in our community. I support sharing this cost with other constituents that will potentially

benefit from the stream flow regulations, including private well users, the agricultural community and fishermen.

Overall, I do not believe the proposed regulations achieve an acceptable balance between human water needs and the environment, and I am concerned that the regulations as currently drafted will impose an unfair financial burden upon our community. I cannot support the regulations in the current format.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "James L. Richetelli, Jr.", written in dark ink.

James L. Richetelli, Jr.  
Mayor of Milford